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lower in grade of development; so the conifers, with their exogenous trunk and their often numerous cotyledons, will have to be considered the prototypes of the exogens, while the cycadæ with endogenous trunk, and unequal or almost single cotyledons, are those of the endogens. Both together, comprised under the general term of gymnosperms, will eventually be acknowledged as a link intermediate between the vascular cryptogams and the flowering plants.

*Naturalization of Plants.*—Mr. MARTINDALE spoke of the various agencies by which foreign plants have been introduced into the country, also of the manner of their distribution, instancing the case of *Rudbeckia hirta*, L., now very abundant in the eastern section, having been introduced in grass seed from the west. He also mentioned a number of plants that are common on the coast of Virginia and southward, which have been collected in the lower counties of New Jersey, evidently from seed carried by birds in their migrations coastwise.

Within a few years large quantities of ballast have been deposited in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, on which have been collected a large number of plants not found elsewhere in the vicinity. Some of the species occur every year, and in some instances spread into the waste grounds; others have not appeared the second season, although their seeds became fully matured. He stated that this subject of introduction and establishment of foreign plants was becoming of more and more importance, as the geographical distribution of species was being investigated, and where reasons could be assigned, as to the manner of introduction, they give it an additional interest. He had, within a few days, collected, near the mouth of Wissahickon Creek, a plant which had been determined to be *Leonurus glaucescens*. A large number of luxuriant specimens were growing in the locality mentioned, and it appeared to be fully established. The plant is an entire stranger in this part of the country, and he could assign no way by which its introduction might have been effected at this time. It might possibly have been introduced from Siberia, by way of Japan, in some of the materials intended for the Centennial Exhibition.

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SEPTEMBER 26.

Mr. EDW. S. WHELEN in the chair.

Thirty-four members present.

A paper entitled "Remarks on *Ptiloris Wilsonii*, Ogden," by Jas. A. Ogden, M.D., was presented for publication.